

Message Text

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44

ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 PA-03 PRS-01 USIA-15 AID-20

CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-11 FRB-02 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01

TRSE-00 XMB-07 OPIC-12 SPC-03 CIEP-02 LAB-06 SIL-01

OMB-01 DRC-01 /142 W

----- 002409

R 030016Z OCT 73

FM AMEMBASSY MEXICO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8271

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MADRID

USEC BRUSSELS 086

UNCLAS MEXICO 7458

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EGEN, MX

SUBJ: MEXICAN BUSINESS GROUP PLANS EC OFFICE

1. MEXICO CITY PRESS CARRIED A STORY THAT THE MEXICAN BUSINESS COUNCIL FOR INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS (CEMAI) PLANS TO ESTABLISH AN OFFICE IN THE EUROPEAN ECONOMIC COMMUNITY, PROBABLY IN BRUSSELS. THE ANNOUNCEMENT WAS REPORTEDLY MADE IN MADRID BY ENRIQUE HERNANDEZ PONS, PRESIDENT OF THE MEXICAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY IN SPAIN, ON SEPTEMBER 25, 1973, HE IS QUOTED AS ANTICIPATING THAT THE PROJECTED OFFICE WILL HELP INCREASE TRADE BETWEEN EUROPE AND MEXICO, AND WILL WORK CLOSELY WITH THE SPANISH-MEXICAN BILATERAL COMMITTEE OF BUSINESSMEN AND THE MEXICAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY IN SPAIN. NO DATE WAS GIVEN FOR THE OPENING OF THE EC OFFICE, WHICH WILL BE IN ADDITION TO THE OFFICE IN BONN PLANNED BY THE MEXICAN FOREIGN TRADE INSTITUTE (IMCE).

2. COMMENT: IN SPITE OF A LACK OF SIGNIFICANT SUCCESS

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IN PAST EFFORTS TO EXPAND TRADE AND INVESTMENT RELATIONSHIPS

WITH THE EC, MEXICO CONTINUES TO RESTATE ITS INTEREST. SOME RECIPROCAL INTEREST HAS BEEN SHOWN, ON A BILATERAL BASIS, BY INDIVIDUAL EC MEMBER COUNTRIES. FOR ESAMPLE, THE LOCAL BRITISH CHAMBER OF COMMERCE PRESIDENT STATED THAT THE UK PLANS TO INCREASE ITS INVESTMENTS IN MEXICO BY UP TO 30 PERCENT IN THE NEXT TWO YEARS, AND THE VICE-PRESIDENT OF THE MEXICAN-GERMAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY ANNOUNCED THAT GERMAN INVESTMENTS IN MEXICO WILL DOUBLE OVER THE NEXT SIX YEARS TO A TOTAL OF 10 BILLION PESOS (US. \$800 MILLION). FURTHER, A LONDON CHAMBER OF COMMERCE TRADE MISSION VISITING MEXICO (SEPTEMBER 28-OCTOBER 12, 1973) WAS RECEIVED BY GOM PRESIDENT ECHEVERRIA, WHO REPORTEDLY REITERATED MEXICO'S DESIRE TO TRADE WITH ALL COUNTRIES.
MCBRIDE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 03 OCT 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973MEXICO07458
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: MEXICO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19731054/aaaabnlr.tel
Line Count: 76
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION ARA
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: shawdg
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 07 DEC 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <07-Dec-2001 by chappeld>; APPROVED <27 FEB 2002 by shawdg>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: MEXICAN BUSINESS GROUP PLANS EC OFFICE
TAGS: EGEN, MX
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005